

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

In I Application No
PCT/GB2004/004803

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 B01D29/00 B01D29/15 B01D29/68		
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC		
B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 B01D		
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched		
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 139 670 A (HIRS ET AL) 18 August 1992 (1992-08-18) the whole document -----	1,2,5-8, 10,12,13
X	US 5 591 329 A (DAVIDSON ET AL) 7 January 1997 (1997-01-07) figures 2,4,10-12 -----	1-18
X	DE 12 77 204 B (PER CORPORATION) 12 September 1968 (1968-09-12) the whole document -----	10-13
A		1-3,5,6
X	US 4 014 796 A (SUGIYAMA ET AL) 29 March 1977 (1977-03-29) the whole document -----	14,16-18
A		7
		-/--
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Patent family members are listed in annex.		
° Special categories of cited documents : "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 24 February 2005		Date of mailing of the international search report 19 1 05 05
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016		Authorized officer de Biasio, A

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/201222 A1 (MALKIN EDWARD) 30 October 2003 (2003-10-30) paragraph [0028]; claims 1,13 -----	14,16-18
A	US 5 868 933 A (PATRICK ET AL) 9 February 1999 (1999-02-09) column 6, line 5 - line 10; claims 1-6 -----	9

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Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☒ Claims Nos.: 109, 110, 111
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
see FURTHER INFORMATION sheet PCT/ISA/210
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:
1-18, 99 (part.)

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

Continuation of Box II.2

Claims Nos.: 109,110,111

Claims should define their subject-matter in a clear manner (Art. 6 PCT). They should not rely on drawings (Rule 6.2(a) PCT). As the requirements of clarity (Art. 6 PCT) are not fulfilled by present claims 109,110 and 111, no meaningful search can be performed for their subject-matter.

The applicant's attention is drawn to the fact that claims relating to inventions in respect of which no international search report has been established need not be the subject of an international preliminary examination (Rule 66.1(e) PCT). The applicant is advised that the EPO policy when acting as an International Preliminary Examining Authority is normally not to carry out a preliminary examination on matter which has not been searched. This is the case irrespective of whether or not the claims are amended following receipt of the search report or during any Chapter II procedure. If the application proceeds into the regional phase before the EPO, the applicant is reminded that a search may be carried out during examination before the EPO (see EPO Guideline C-VI, 8.5), should the problems which led to the Article 17(2) declaration be overcome.

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FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-18, 99 (part.)

filtration system with at least one flexible filter and
method of manufacturing said filtration system

2. claims: 19-70-75-78,99 (part.)

filtration system comprising a sealed vessel for operating
below atmospheric pressure and method of operating such
filtration system

3. claims: 71-74,100-108

vessel and collection chamber for collecting particulates
filtered from a fluid

4. claims: 79-92

filter cleaning apparatus

5. claims: 93-97, 99 (part.)

filtration system with biological filter media

6. claims: 98, 99 (part.)

filtration system for filtering water with filter and pump,
the pump being provided on the suction side of the pump

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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PC., 2004/004803

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5139670	A	18-08-1992	NONE	
US 5591329	A	07-01-1997	WO 9638215 A1 US 5882528 A	05-12-1996 16-03-1999
DE 1277204	B		CH 405237 A	15-01-1966
US 4014796	A	29-03-1977	JP 50156766 A CA 1032088 A1 DE 2524687 A1 ES 231118 Y FR 2273574 A1 GB 1504377 A	18-12-1975 30-05-1978 02-01-1976 01-04-1978 02-01-1976 22-03-1978
US 2003201222	A1	30-10-2003	US 2002108896 A1	15-08-2002
US 5868933	A	09-02-1999	US 5762797 A AT 273739 T AU 6279698 A CA 2294003 A1 CN 1275094 A ,C DE 69825749 D1 EP 0989898 A1 WO 9857726 A1 US 2003029789 A1 US 6171496 B1 US 2002033365 A1 US 2002043493 A1 CA 2200292 A1 EP 1059980 A1 WO 9944712 A1	09-06-1998 15-09-2004 04-01-1999 23-12-1998 29-11-2000 23-09-2004 05-04-2000 23-12-1998 13-02-2003 09-01-2001 21-03-2002 18-04-2002 18-09-1998 20-12-2000 10-09-1999